BENGALURU, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 22 | Min 21 | Humidity 88% Showers Sensex 81,526 | Nifty 24,641 | Gold 78,534 | Silver 95,114 | Dollar 84.82 | Euro 89.28 | GBP 108.35

NO PARKING

New Yellow metro route, opening next year, will offer only two-wheeler parking due to limited room

PAGE 4

DOG FIGHT

Canine population at veterinary college campus is exploding, saying a lot about BBMP's sterilisation programme

PAGE 5

Human rights commission functioning without head since Feb this year; vacancies in key posts have also brought law, administration and investigation wing of panel to standstill

RIGHT OR WRONG?

Karnataka has recorded 7,587 violation cases in 2024

| Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As the world observed Human Rights Day on December 10, marking the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 and celebrating Human Rights week, Karnataka's State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has been left to function without a chairperson since February 29, 2024.

And what is more, all the three important bodies of the commission are functioning without a head. The leadership vacancies underscore an apparent neglect of this vital constitutional body, which is tasked with safeguarding human rights across the state.

Leadership crisis

The SHRC, responsible for addressing cases ranging from custodial deaths and police torture to workplace harassment and environmental violations, has been without a full-fledged chairperson for over nine months. The position, which must be held by a retired chief justice or retired justice, remains vacant despite the availability of eligible candidates. Instead, retired IAS officer T Shyam Bhatt has been serving as the acting chairperson. While competent in administrative roles, Bhatt lacks the judicial experience crucial for adjudicating sensitive cases, sources told BM.

The leadership crisis is not limited to the chairperson. The administrative head, equivalent to a senior IAS officer, has been vacant for over 18 months. Similarly, the head of the SHRC's Investigation Wing, typically an Inspector General of Police (IGP), has been unfilled for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

> **"Human rights violations are occurring daily in the city, with increasing police atrocities, reflecting a lack of commitment from the authorities. When the SHRC intervenes in such cases, it highlights the government's failure**
>
> —Narasimha Murthy, human rights activist

Fare, unfair ride

Student's experience with over-charging auto-driver touches raw nerve as citizens vent on social media

| Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Even the rise of app-based auto services has not seemed to curb unfair pricing that citizens face from auto drivers. Last week, a college student took to social media after allegedly being intimidated by an auto driver who was demanding excess fare.

The student, Raghav, who is interning in the city, had booked an auto through the Namma Yatri app. The driver initially seemed cooperative but demanded an additional ₹200 upon reaching the destination. When the student refused to comply, citing the app's agreed fare, the situation escalated and he was allegedly harassed and threatened by the driver.

"The driver threatened to beat me up outside my office," he wrote on social media. "He hurled racial slurs at my friend and me, all because we refused to pay extra."

In response to the incident, the Namma Yatri team stated, "Raghav, we hope we have connected with you. We've taken immediate action by blocking the driver from the platform and have initiated the refund on our platform. Thank you for bringing this to our notice."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Sufi concert

Indian Music Experience Museum presents 'Kun Faya Kun' by KM Sufi Ensemble: 16 talented young musicians who will showcase Qawwali, a form of Sufi devotional music from the Indian subcontinent that dates back over 700 years.
Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Kanakapura Road
When: December 15, 6:30 pm

02 Theatre act

Watch 'Everybody,' a fresh and audacious adaptation of the 15th-century morality play Everyman. Filled with humour, raw emotion, and a touch of absurdity, this play is a rollercoaster of existential reflections and unexpected revelations.
Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield
When: December 13-15

03 Into Indian forests

Book launch of GOVERNING FORESTS by environmental lawyer and legal scholar, Arpitha Kodiveri. She will be in conversation with Disha Ravi.
Where: Champaca Bookstore
When: December 14, 5 pm

04 Walk for health

18th Annual Samarthanam Bengaluru Walkathon with the theme "Health for All," commemorating World Disability Day and championing inclusivity and health equity.
Where: Kittur Rani Chennamma Stadium, Jayanagar; When: December 14, 9 am

05 What's changing climate?

'Ajaatshatru' is a Hindi adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's play 'An Enemy of the People' written by Ila Arun. Directed by KK Raina & Ila Arun, the play focuses on the burning problem of environmental disaster, air, and water pollution confronting us today.
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
When: December 15, 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm

Smash it: Pickleball is taking over Bengaluru

Sports enthusiasts in city are spending their weekends trying out trending sport

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

NOW TRENDING

The sport is played on a smaller court with paddles and a perforated ball (file photo)

Pickleball, a fast-growing sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis, is now rapidly emerging as a favourite among Bengaluru's sports enthusiasts. Played on a smaller court with paddles and a perforated ball, the game is known for its simplicity and has gained traction among players of all ages and skill levels.

The city has seen a rapid increase in pickleball courts and many sports enthusiasts are spending their weekends playing pickleball. According to reports, pickleball, played both indoors and outdoors, was invented in 1965 as a backyard game for children in Washington state, USA. In 2022, it was officially designated as the state sport of Washington.

Pickleball experience & arenas in city

GoRally currently operates four centres with 15 dedicated pickleball courts across Bengaluru and is rapidly expanding. Pickleball is now the world's fastest-growing sport (played by 50M globally). In the US, it's already the second-biggest recreational activity after running and cycling. We see significant potential for it in India, said Abhinav Shankar, founder of GoRally.

"Bengaluru, with its thriving racquet-sport culture—boasting the highest number of badminton centres in Asia—and a tech-savvy population influenced by global trends, provides the perfect environment for pickleball to thrive. The city's young and active demographic is naturally drawn to a sport that is social, accessible, and fun. To date, around 5,000 have played on our courts and we also run Bengaluru's largest open pickleball community on WhatsApp, with over 2,000 members. It's super inclusive and easy to learn," Shankar said. GoRally recently hosted the BLR Masters tournament, a landmark event featuring over 600 matches and 400+ participants, showcasing the sport's growing community in Bengaluru.

Vinod Jacob, Namma Bengaluru Foundation, who has recently started playing the sport, said, "I've been playing pickleball for three months now, and it has significantly boosted my fitness, helping me shed a few extra kilos. The beauty of this sport is its simplicity. In Bengaluru, pickleball has rapidly gained popularity, with dedicated venues and even tennis academies adapting to include pickleball courts. It's an incredibly fun sport, embraced by many Indians, and growing quickly across the country."

When asked if there are enough pickleball arenas in Bengaluru to accommodate the growing interest in the sport, Sam Sancheti, another founder of GoRally said, "While the sport is growing rapidly in Bengaluru, it is still early in its journey of scaling up its supply of courts in comparison to the increasing demand. In contrast, for example, Ahmedabad already has more than 200 pickleball courts. The sport's affordability, scalability, and inclusivity could lead to a tenfold increase in players."

Know more about pickleball

Pickleball can be played by people of all ages. It is easy to start and tough to master and has a lower risk of injury compared to other sports. It can be played in both singles & doubles—while pickleball doubles have lower physical strain, making it inclusive, pickleball singles have been measured to have the most intense workout value compared to all other racquet sports. It combines elements of tennis, badminton, and table tennis, making it dynamic yet approachable. Its smaller court size allows for quick rallies and fun gameplay. Regardless of skill level, we believe you can rally within 30 minutes with your friends, making it perfect for both fitness and socialising, said Shankar & Sancheti.

Margadarsi Chits' new branch in Kengeri

Margadarsi Chits has opened its 119th branch in Kengeri. With this new branch, the company continues to expand its presence in Karnataka, focusing on helping individuals and families meet their financial goals. Sailaja Kiron, Managing Director of Margadarsi Chits, stated, "The opening of the Kengeri branch is an important step in our effort to provide financial independence to the people of Karnataka. Margadarsi Chits aims to offer secure and transparent saving options to assist our subscribers in reaching their goals. We are eager to continue serving our subscribers. Founded in 1962, Margadarsi Chit Fund has 60 lakh subscribers and a cumulative auction turnover of Rs 9,396 crore, with 119 branches across Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu." **–BMB**

HC okays gift deed from elderly dad to kids

The Karnataka High Court nullified an order by the Hassan Assistant Commissioner under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, which cancelled a gift deed from an elderly father to his children. The ruling addressed a petition by a bank whose borrowers had defaulted after mortgaging the gifted property.

Justice MGS Kamal stated, "This Court, under the peculiar facts situation of the case, is of the considered view that the petitioner-bank is entitled to maintain the writ petition, more so when it is required to recover the loan amount advanced by it in the larger public interest."

The court granted special consideration as the act lacked provisions for appeals by entities like the petitioner-bank with distinct interests. It noted, "The Act 2007 does not define the term "Aggrieved Person". Thus, in the circumstances, there is no possibility of petitioner-bank having any recourse for any remedy under the Act, 2007. Therefore, the only option available to the petitioner-bank is to approach this Court invoking its extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India."

AXIS Bank had provided Rs 18 lakh to Mir Anasar Ali and another person against property received from their father Mir Johari Ali, through an unconditional gift deed. Upon default, the bank discovered that father and son had collaborated to cancel the June 5, 2014, gift deed, potentially undermining the bank's interests. The bank argued that the Assistant Commissioner misapplied Section 23 of the Act 2007, which requires specific maintenance conditions in gift deeds. The order affected the bank's recovery rights as a mortgagee.

The court examined the Act's purpose of providing swift relief to neglected elderly persons. The court deemed Assistant Commissioner's order invalid, lacking proper reasoning and jurisdiction. It expressed concern about the Act's misuse, noting that complex civil matters were being hastily resolved through its simplified procedures. **–BMB**

B'luru-Mysuru Highway reports 75% decline in road fatalities

From 188 in 2023 to 84 in 2024, automated system cuts fatalities by half; no casualties reported in last 2 months: Data

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

FILE PHOTO

The Bengaluru-Mysuru highway has witnessed almost a 75 per cent dramatic decline in road fatalities following the installation of the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) in July 2024. Spanning 117 kilometres, the highway saw a reduction in fatalities from 188 in 2023 to 84 in 2024 (up to November), as per data from the Karnataka Department of Traffic and Road Safety. Moreover, injuries also dropped significantly, from 580 in 2023 to 355 in 2024.

The Bengaluru-Mysuru highway has long been a critical connector for commuters and freight between two key cities in Karnataka. However, it also earned a notorious reputation for accidents and fatalities since it became a six-lane access-controlled corridor in March 2023.

In 2024, up to November, 287 accident cases were reported on the highway, comprising 72 fatal cases and 213 non-fatal cases. In contrast, 2023 recorded 523 accidents, including 158 fatal cases.

Earlier, vehicles would often race down the highway at speeds of 130-140 km/h. However, with the installation of the ATMS, cameras now capture speeding violations, and e-challans are directly sent to the registered mobile numbers of the vehicle owners, said KV Sharath Chandra ADGP, Karnataka Department of Traffic and Road Safety.

"Speeding may thrill, but it kills... This is something everyone should keep in mind. This enforcement has been impactful, as no one likes losing money. With stringent action against speeding, we've been able to significantly reduce accidents and save many lives by preventing these incidents altogether."

3,822 road accidents in 1 year

Bengaluru has the second-highest number of road accident fatalities in the country, following Delhi. The latest data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows that the city recorded 3,822 road accidents in one year, accounting for 5.8% of all accidents in India. However, data presented in the Lok Sabha by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways revealed a significant reduction in road fatalities, with no fatalities reported in the last two months.

ADGP for Training Alok Kumar shared an update on X, stating, "A drastic reduction in accidents on the highway was a challenge fraught with the risk of public criticism and uncertainty about the outcome. It is heartening to see that fatalities have dropped to zero, a commendable initiative worth replicating on other highways as well."

Impact of ATMS

The installation of the ATMS in mid-2024 marked a turning point in road safety for the highway. The system uses cutting-edge technology to monitor traffic in real time, detect violations, and promptly address incidents. One of its key functions is to identify vehicles exceeding the speed limit, which was set at 100 km/h for this corridor.

The authorities imposed strict penalties for violations. Motorists caught driving over 130 km/h face an FIR, in addition to a Rs 1,000 fine.

Court rejects anticipatory bail to DySP Lakshmi

The court on Tuesday rejected the anticipatory bail petition filed by Deputy Superintendent of Police Kanaka Lakshmi BM, accused in the suicide case of businesswoman S Jeeva. The petitioner sought bail under Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, for offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

However, the court found no grounds to grant anticipatory bail, citing the serious nature of the allegations. The prosecution opposed the bail, emphasising the need for custodial interrogation to prevent potential threats to witnesses and the destruction of evidence. –BMB

Special team to probe into techie's suicide case

A special team has been dispatched from the Marathahalli police station on Wednesday to Uttar Pradesh to further investigate the suicide case of Bengaluru techie Atul Subhash (34). The deceased had left a 40-page death note and video.

According to the police, the wife of the deceased, Nikita Singhania, and her family have been booked under abetment to suicide, allegedly seeking money and filing multiple cases against Subhash and his family, which, according to him were false and fake. The police will further interrogate the accused and take action based on their statement. –BMB

Yellow Line parking faces space crunch

New metro route, opening next year, will offer only two-wheeler parking due to limited room

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The 19 km metro route with 16 stations will offer parking for 2,690 two-wheelers at 13 stations

The much-delayed Metro yellow line that connects Electronics City is likely to be operational from next year. Consequently, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has invited tenders for the provision of parking facilities at metro stations along the Yellow Line route between RV Road and Bommasandra. However, there is provision only for two-wheeler parking and no car parking due to shortage of space.

The 19-kilometre route will include 16 metro stations, out of which 13 stations will have parking facilities. However, parking will only be available for two-wheelers at these stations. Given the high number of IT companies along this route, most commuters rely on cars, and the lack of car parking facilities has caused frustration among employees. Sources said that a total of 2,690 two-wheelers can be parked across the 13 stations. The Electronic City Station-1 will have the capacity to park 1,000 two-wheelers. At the RV Road interchange station, only 271 parking spaces are available, which may cause further inconvenience as this station is expected to see a high volume of passengers.

An official said, "The route will also feature three interchanged stations: the RV Road station on the Green Line, the Jayadeva station on the Pink Line (Kalen Agrahara-Nagawara), and the Reshmemandali station on the Blue Line (Silk Board-KR Puram-International Airport). These interchanged stations are expected to face significant parking challenges as the number of passengers grow. According to the Detailed Project Report (DPR), it is estimated that 4 lakh passengers will travel on this route daily by 2021. Of the three interchange stations, around 1 lakh passengers are expected to pass through RV Road Station every day, with 82,000 at Jayadeva and 23,000 at Silk Board. During peak hours, over 18,000 people are expected to travel on the Yellow Line."

> **"The route will feature three interchanged stations. These stations are expected to face significant parking challenges as the number of passengers grow**
>
> –Official

The Pink Line is expected to open by the end of next year, and the Blue Line is scheduled to begin operations by the end of 2026, further increasing the number of metro passengers on these routes.

Parking capacity

According to the BMRCL tender, RV Road Station has a parking capacity for 223 two-wheelers, followed by Ragigudda with 220 spaces. The BTM Layout Station can accommodate 216 two-wheelers, while the Central Silk Board station offers parking for 230 two-wheelers. Bommasandra has parking for 85 two-wheelers, and Hongasandra can accommodate 155. Kudlu Gate station stands out with a large capacity of 853 two-wheelers. Singasandra and Hosa Road stations both have parking for 90 two-wheelers each. The Electronic City-1 station leads with the highest parking capacity at 980 two-wheelers. The Infosys Foundation has parking for 77, while Biocon Hebbagodi can accommodate 150 two-wheelers. Lastly, Bommasandra has an additional capacity for 92 two-wheelers.

Newly white-topped road becomes garbage dump

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Piles of garbage accumulating along the stretch due to poor maintainence

Residents of HBR Layout's 5th Block are dismayed by the poor maintenance of a recently white-topped road, which has now become a dumping ground for waste. Despite the project being hailed as an infrastructure improvement initiative, the lack of sweeping and cleaning has turned the area into an eyesore, prompting complaints from residents.

According to locals, the white-topped road, initially a welcome development for commuters, has fallen into neglect due to improper management. Garbage piles have become a common sight, and the absence of regular sweeping has worsened the situation.

> **HBR Layout residents voice frustration over poor maintainence of recently white-topped road, which has become eyesore**

"We were initially happy when the road was white-topped as it significantly improved connectivity in our area. But now, the same road has become a dumping ground for waste. No cleaning is being done, and the place is a mess. Such a good project is being ignored," said Vikram Mailar Vijay, a resident of HBR Layout.

The lack of maintenance has not only affected the road's visual appeal but has also raised concerns about health and hygiene among the residents. "The dry waste lying in the open. We have repeatedly requested the authorities to address this issue, but no action has been taken so far," added another resident.

The white-topping project, part of Bengaluru's ongoing efforts to improve road infrastructure, aimed to ensure smoother roads and better durability. However, locals claim that the maintenance gap undermines the benefits of the initiative.

Residents are urging Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to act promptly to resolve the issue. "The dedicated staff for sweeping, and installing waste bins along the road should be done to curb indiscriminate dumping. We have not seen cleaning happen frequently. The issue is being escalated to BBMP but nothing has been done so far, " added Vijay.

"Projects like these are meant to enhance our living standards, but they need sustained maintenance. It's frustrating to see the authorities invest so much in building something only to neglect it later," said another resident.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Sidewalk blocked

BTM Layout

A car parked opposite Ashirwad Supermarket on 7th Main, BTM Layout, 2nd Stage, completely blocks the sidewalk.

Parking violation

St Marks Road

Vehicles occupy a no-parking zone opposite Bishop Cotton Girls' School on St Marks Road.

Pothole peril

Munnekollal

Lakshmi Narayan Temple Road in Munnekollal is riddled with numerous potholes.

HC stays sexual assault case filed against director Ranjith

Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Court pointed out that while complainant claimed sexual assault at Taj Hotel near Bengaluru International Airport in 2012, establishment only began operations in 2016

The Karnataka High Court has halted the investigation into a sexual harassment case against Malayalam film director Ranjith Balakrishnan, observing that the allegations appeared to be false at first glance.

The Court pointed out a significant discrepancy, noting that while the complainant claimed sexual assault at the Taj Hotel near Bengaluru airport in 2012, the establishment only began operations in 2016. "The complaint on the face of it, is false. I don't even say prima facie, as the Taj Hotel near Bengaluru International Airport starts its operation only in the year 2016; this is in public domain, it is four years after the incident. Therefore, the vivid narration at Taj hotel is absolutely false. This is thus a canard," Justice M Nagaprasanna observed.

The Court highlighted that the complaint was lodged after a 12-year delay. "The complaint is registered in the year 2024 and the alleged incident is said to have happened in the year 2012. This delay of 12 years is also left completely unexplained. Therefore, on all these factors it becomes a classic case of falsus in uno, falsus in omnibus," the Court stated.

Consequently, the Court ordered suspension of further investigation into the FIR. The complainant, who identified himself as an aspiring actor, had alleged that Ranjith summoned him to the hotel room and subjected him to sexual harassment. The next hearing is scheduled for January 17.

Advocate challenges magistrate's cognisanse of POCSO case against BSY

In an HC hearing, Senior Advocate CV Nagesh, representing former CM BS Yediyurappa, challenged the magistrate's cognisance of a POCSO case chargesheet, characterising the complainant as unreliable and suggesting her statements warrant careful scrutiny.

Nagesh highlighted that the complaint was filed after a considerable delay, noting the complainant's multiple visits during this period. He disclosed that the complainant had previously filed numerous cases against various officials and family members, totalling over 50 complaints, a fact undisputed by the State government. Regarding the chargesheet's cognisance, Nagesh argued for its dismissal, citing missing FSL reports and Section 164 statements. The HC noted the absence of reasoning in the cognisance order.

Nagesh contested the prosecution's claims about the complainant's record and opposed their application to lift the court's June 14 interim order protecting Yediyurappa from arrest. Special Public Prosecutor Ravivarma Kumar sought to vacate the interim protection, questioning its nature and arguing against such protection in serious cases. He emphasised the necessity of the petitioner's presence during victim statement recording. The court has scheduled further arguments for Thursday.

BM WoW Week
Your Chance to WIN today
Answer this and fill the details below to win passes to a concert by Zubeen at Garuda Mall on December 14
Which is the famous song that gave Zubeen Garg the biggest break in Bollywood?
Name:
Age:
Area:
Profession:
Your favourite story in BM:
Scan this code to follow us on Insta and drop your responses there or whatsapp us at
9591233247
(* Terms and Conditions apply)

IN BRIEF

NGT questions fresh water use at city stadium

The National Green Tribunal has asked the Karnataka State Cricket Association why it was using fresh water for watering the turf at M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) earlier in April sought a reply from the state cricket association in a matter regarding the supply of treated water to M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. It had observed that around 75,000 litres of water was required at the stadium during IPL matches while there was a shortage of around 500 million litres per day (MLD) in Karnataka's state capital.

In its order dated November 26, a bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava said that the association had filed a reply disclosing the different sources from where the water was obtained. "...the respondent is using borewell (groundwater) for watering turf, which is the freshwater source," said the bench, also comprising judicial member Sudhir Agarwal and expert member A Senthil Vel.

The tribunal noted that the association's counsel sought time to obtain instruction regarding the reason for using fresh water instead of water treated by a sewage treatment plant (STP). "Let the affidavit verifying the above aspect be filed within four weeks," it said. It also noted that the association was not able to obtain the required quantity of municipal sewage to fully utilise the 200 KLD capacity STP installed by it. The matter has been posted for further proceedings on March 19. — **PTI**

Who let dogs out at Hebbal's Veterinary College campus?

BBMP urged to speed up immunisation & sterilisation to curb stray population, prevent mishaps

There are around 60 stray dogs at the Veterinary College campus in Hebbal

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has introduced an animal birth control (ABC) programme for stray dogs in the city. However, if the number of stray dogs at Veterinary College, Hebbal, is anything to go by, it seems the BBMP Animal Husbandry Department officials need to pull up their socks.

There are around 60 stray dogs at the Veterinary College campus, and the majority of them are yet to be sterilised and immunised. The further the delay, the greater is the danger of an increase in the number of strays; it could also pose danger to the staff and students of Veterinary College and those who visit the campus for a walk.

A resident of RT Nagar has opined that some people or NGOs engaged to sterilise and immunise stray dogs would have left these dogs on the Veterinary College campus. "It is quite surprising to see more than 50 stray dogs on the campus. I want the authorities to look into this issue and take measures to arrange sterilisation and immunisation for these dogs. I think the BBMP Animal Husbandry Department is not monitoring stray dogs in the city. What happened to the funds allocated for implementing the ABC programme?" the resident asked.

"The BBMP Animal Husbandry Department authorities could have taken the help or assistance of two non-governmental organisations (NGOs) situated on the Veterinary College campus for sterilisation and immunisation of these stray dogs. It seems that not many of these dogs are sterilised," said an animal activist.

> **It is BBMP's responsibility to sterilise & immunise stray dogs in city**
> –Arun Prasad, animal activist

When contacted, BBMP Animal Husbandry Assistant Director said that he assumed office recently. "I visited the Veterinary College campus two days ago when some of the Veterinary College staff advised me to visit the campus." He added that the citizens requested to make arrangements for the sterilisation and immunisation of the stray dogs.

Trap method vs fishing nets to catch strays

The assistant director further added, "Some of the stray dogs were already sterilied. A veterinary doctor who used to work at the Veterinary College campus introduced a trap method to catch stray dogs for sterilisation and immunisation. There is a feeder to look after those stray dogs. I will make arrangements for sterilisation and immunisation of the remaining stray dogs."

Meanwhile, Arun Prasad, an animal activist, said, "I oppose the trap method for stray dogs, and it is against the norms. The approved method is to use butterfly nets to catch the stray dogs for sterilisation and immunisation."

He said the need of the hour is the construction of more kennels for stray dogs to ensure the ABC programme's success. "NGOs can take care of stray dogs, but it is the BBMP's responsibility to sterilise and immunise stray dogs in the city," Prasad added.

Lush idea: Plan afoot to turn NGEF land into tree park

105 acre site in Baiyappanahalli site will feature cultural hubs and community areas by 2025

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The land which used to house one of the biggest state government companies has been facing negligence for a long time. Now, a tree park is set to take shape in the eastern part of Bengaluru by 2025. The Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) has taken the initiative to convert 105 acres of unused land belonging to the defunct New Government Electrical Factory (NGEF) in Baiyappanahalli into a lush green tree park. The groundwork is expected to commence this month.

An official said, "Out of the total area, 70 acres will be dedicated to park development. In the first phase, SR Construction Company has been awarded a 10 crore contract to develop 15-20 acres. The contractors have been instructed to carry out the work without harming the environment, cutting trees, or causing pollution. The project, designed to be highly attractive, will be completed in two phases." According to a KIADB official, the tree park will retain the existing greenery, which includes 60-70 acres of dense tree cover and eight buildings on the property. The first phase is expected to be completed within six months.

The tree park will preserve existing 60-70 acres of dense greenery and eight buildings

Planned features

Sources said that the first phase will include an entry plaza, walking paths, a children's play area, a cycling dock station, food courts, coffee shops, a waterfront, sculpture courts, signage boards, rest areas, a 1.4 km walkway, a 200-metre elevated walkway, a suspension bridge, a pet zone, and observation towers. The second phase will introduce an innovation hub, a cultural arts centre, a nursery, a sports complex, a multi-purpose auditorium, and Wi-Fi facilities. The project aims to preserve the NGEF heritage while showcasing Karnataka's culture and traditions, transforming the site into a tourist and community-centred destination.

"Out of the total area, 70 acres will be dedicated to park development. Contractors have been instructed to carry out work without harming environment –Official

Historical context

Established in 1956 with German collaboration, NGEF was renowned for manufacturing pumps, switchgear, and transformers. The factory ceased operations in 2002 due to financial issues. Of the 240-acre property, portions were allocated to the Baiyappanahalli Metro station and depot. In 2022, former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced plans to develop the site under the "Experience Bengaluru Project." The state government has since taken steps to preserve NGEF, Mysore Lamps Works, and other public enterprises as heritage landmarks, establishing the Bengaluru Heritage and Environment Trust for this purpose.

Complaints? call 112, police say

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Following this, Raghav received a refund of ₹120.

The Bengaluru Police too responded to the incident, requesting the student to share the driver's details for further action. They also advised citizens to report similar incidents by using their auto complaint helpline. "Kindly use our Auto Complaints numbers 080-22868550/22868444 to register complaints against autos or taxis for offenses such as overcharging or refusal to hire," they stated.

Meanwhile the post quickly gained traction, with many Bengaluru residents chiming in to share similar experiences. "Karnataka has started scaring people using public transport. Autorickshaw loot is pretty common, but this criminal intimidation is extremely worrying," wrote another user.

Another frustrated commuter took to social media, tagging @DgpKarnataka and other officials, to highlight the issue of exploitative auto drivers. "Sir, request you to do something about these Auto Drivers. They take two passengers at Cubbon Park Metro and charge double for one trip," the user wrote, The user further alleged that the drivers have formed a cartel, making it difficult for commuters to get fair rides.

For many, auto-rickshaws are an essential mode of transport in Bengaluru's congested streets, but the increasing aggression and fare disputes are undermining trust. Another user expressed concern, stating, "The harassment and threats from auto-rickshaw drivers in Bengaluru are becoming a common issue, causing significant distress for commuters. Action is needed to ensure public safety and address this growing problem."

Kuldeep Kumar Jain, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic, East), had this advice for those in trouble. "If auto-rickshaw drivers are demanding excessive fares, passengers should call 112. To report auto refusals, the BTP website provides a helpline number where incidents can be reported. Based on the details provided, the investigation will proceed." He also mentioned that complaints are not always getting registered, and emphasised that only when victims come forward with complaints can authorities understand the extent of such harassment. "Otherwise, at most only one or two complaints are recorded," he said.

Free HPV vaccination drive reaches over 17,000 women & girls

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women in India, and a leading cause of mortality, especially in rural and financially disadvantaged communities. The alarming statistics with 1,23,907 diagnoses and 77,348 deaths annually highlight the urgent need for intervention. A not-for-profit organisation in Bengaluru has come forward to address the need to provide HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccination to the underprivileged. The vaccination, priced at Rs 12,000, is being provided free of charge by the organisation to girls in schools and colleges. Over 17,650 individuals have received the vaccine so far.

The HPV Vaccination Drive for Cervical Cancer, spearheaded by the Aahwahan Foundation provides free HPV vaccinations to women and children in rural and financially disadvantaged communities who face barriers to accessing healthcare facilities. The ongoing efforts aim to vaccinate 5,00,000 females by 2030, with significant progress made in Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Kerala.

The foundation carries out a data-driven and collaborative approach by conducting baseline studies to identify high-risk areas. Collaborating with government schools, colleges, and local healthcare providers to identify eligible girls and women aged 9 to 45. Focusing on rural and slum communities where access to healthcare is limited and partnering with local leaders and NGOs to build trust and ensure effective outreach.

Initiaive targets rural communities w

Braja Kishore Pradhan, Founder and CEO of Aawahan Foundation said, "The awareness about cervical cancer and HPV vaccines in underprivileged communities is alarmingly low. Many women are unaware of the link between HPV and cervical cancer, the availability and benefits of HPV vaccinations and the importance of regular screenings, like Pap tests, for early detection. The high cost of HPV vaccines approximately 12,000 per dose makes them inaccessible to underprivileged families. We are providing these vaccines entirely free of cost to eligible women and girls."

Ragini, a beneficiary of the initiative, said, "I never knew about cervical cancer or the vaccine until the camp came to our village. When the doctors explained how this simple injection could protect my daughters from a dangerous disease, I felt a sense of relief and hope. We could never afford such a vaccine, but this initiative gave it to us for free. My daughters now have a future where they can be healthy and strong, and as a mother, that means everything to me."

In Karnataka, the organisation has a focus to target to vaccinate 90% of eligible girls and women in the state by 2030, focusing on underserved and high-risk communities. "We are actively engaging with the ground level, covering rural and urban locations in Karnataka, and strategising outreach programs to ensure a smooth rollout in the coming months. We are carrying out extensive awareness campaigns in different parts of these states, and we are looking forward to meeting a target of 10,000 girls & women in the initial phase of this project and 1,00,000 from each of the states shortly. So far we made significant progress with a total number of 17,650 having registered for the vaccination," added Pradhan.

Four students drown during educational trip

Four class-nine girl students from a residential school drowned in the sea at Murudeshwar in Uttara Kannada district, during an educational tour, police said on Wednesday.

A group of 46 students and six teachers from Morarji Desai Residential School, Mulabagilu in the Kolar district visited Murudeshwar on Tuesday as part of their school trip.

According to the police, around 5.30 pm, the teachers, along with the students went to the beach.

Despite warnings from lifeguards, seven students ventured into the sea. The sea was rough, and three girls were swept away by the current, while another girl died on the spot.

The remaining three students were rescued with the help of lifeguards and other agencies. They were immediately taken to the hospital and are now reported to be out of danger, a senior police officer said.

A search operation with lifeguards, fishermen, and police recovered the bodies of three girls who were feared to have drowned on Wednesday morning.

"We have registered a case under Section 106 (Causing death by negligence) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and arrested all six teachers in connection with the incident," said Narayana M, Superintendent of Police, Uttara Kannada.

The teachers were later released on station bail, he added.

The deceased girls, aged 15, have been identified as Shravanti, Deeksha, Lavanya, and Lipika. Expressing his condolence to the bereaved parents, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced an ex-gratia of Rs 5 lakh each to the families of the deceased students. **PTI**

Karnataka sees drop in TB cases and fatalities

State records 65,186 cases and 3,711 deaths this year, down from 81,862 cases and 5,115 deaths last year; experts credit improved diagnostics, hygiene for decline

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

This year so far, Karnataka has recorded 65,186 cases of tuberculosis (TB) compared with 81,862 cases last year. The number of deaths has decreased from 5,115 last year to 3,711 this year.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recently shared the information, based on data available in the Ni-kshay portal.

Healthcare experts say various initiatives such as the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) and Nikshay Poshan Yojana have improved patient identification, nutritional support, and follow-up care, leading to a drop in cases and fatalities.

Rapid case finding with advanced diagnostics accessible to most parts of the population irrespective of their socioeconomic status and constant follow-up of the patients are some measures that have done the trick.

"Patients are now monitored with the help of medical officers to ensure there is no relapse. Multi-drug-resistant TB is also diagnosed early and the duration of treatment has reduced drastically. Generally, treatment of multidrug resistant TB used to take one and a half years. Now, with newer drugs, we can treat it in a shorter time. Moreover, the capacity building of on-ground workers has significantly improved. These aspects have contributed towards this drop," said Dr Srivatsa Lokeshwaran, Lead Consultant and Head of the Department of Interventional Pulmonology and Lung Transplant, Aster Whitefield Hospital.

Rapid case diagnosis, accessible diagnostics are key to success

Some experts say while they have not marked any drop in TB cases, cleanliness and hygiene practised during the COVID-19 pandemic might have contributed to the drop in cases and thus fatalities.

"Advancements in diagnostic tools, the regular raising of concern about AMR (Antimicrobial Resistance), and several educating and awareness programs for early detection of the disease are some reasons that have led to the decrease. The guidelines for cleanliness and hygiene during COVID-19 can also be calculated as a contributor to the reduced number of people. Most importantly, the continuous efforts of government and healthcare providers have played a significant role," said Dr Sachin Kumar, Senior Consultant, Pulmonology & Critical Care Medicine at Sakra World Hospital.

While Tuberculosis cases and deaths due to infections might have dropped, more than 65 thousand cases per year is a big number. The government must take measures to ensure further improvement in the situation.

YourCV JOBS FOR YOU

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS
चेन्नै / Chennai - 600036
दूरभाष / Telephone: [044] 2257 8115 ईमेल / Email: recruit@iitm.ac.in

Advertisement No.IITM/R/6/2024 dated 11.12.2024

Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai invites online applications from Indian Nationals possessing the required academic qualifications and relevant work experience for recruitment to the following position on **Deputation / Contract.**

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Upper Age Limit	Pay Matrix Level	Number of vacancies
1.	**HVAC Officer**	**45 Years**	**Level-11**	**1 (UR)**

For details regarding the online application, educational qualifications, experience, other requirements, and terms & conditions, please visit the Institute's recruitment website: **https://recruit.iitm.ac.in**

REGISTRAR

दि न्यू इंडिया एश्योरन्स कंपनी लिमिटेड
THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE CO. LTD.
Regd. & Head Office : 87, M.G. Road, Fort, Mumbai-400001.
CIN No: L66000MH1919GOI000526 | IRDA Registration No: 190

RECRUITMENT OF 500 ASSISTANTS

The New India Assurance Company Limited, a leading Public Sector General Insurance Company, invites applications for recruitment of 500 **Assistants** from open market.

Mode of Application :- The candidates are requested to apply through online mode only between 17/12/2024 to 01/01/2025 (both days inclusive). No other means / mode of application will be accepted.

Age (as on 01/12/2024) :-
Minimum Age : 21 years; Maximum Age : 30 years.

Educational Qualification (as on 01/12/2024) :-
Graduate from a recognized University / Equivalent.
Knowledge of Regional Language of the State / UT for which the candidate is applying is essential.

Gross Emoluments :-
Approximately **Rs.** 40,000/- p.m. in initial stage in a Metro city.

This notice is for information only. For details of State / UT & category-wise vacancies and for online application, please visit 'Recruitment section' of our website http://www.newindia.co.in.

MUMBAI **DGM, CORP. HRM**

JOY UNIVERSITY
Established vide Tamil Nadu State Pvt. Universities Act 2019
Raja Nagar, Vadakangulam, Near Kanyakumari, Tirunelveli Dist. – 627116 Tamil Nadu

Applications are Invited for the posts of Vice Chancellor Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor / Head / Dean of Admissions

Preferably Qualified from HEIs like
IIT / NIT / IISc / IIIT / IIM / NIPER / IISER / NIs / CUs / BITS

- **Vice Chancellor** being the academic head of the university should be a person of highest level of competence and institutional commitment. A distinguished academician, with a minimum of 10 years of experience in teaching, research and / or academic administration as a professor in a university of repute / Centrally funded Institutions / Deemed to be universities and having demonstrated academic leadership.
- **Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor in** Computer Sci. & Engg., Forensic Science, Fashion Design, Nursing, Biotechnology, Anaesthesia, Management, Law, Mathematics, Tamil, Psychology, Cardiac Perfusion, Physiotherapy, Criminology & Police Adminstration
- **Head / Dean of Admissions** to lead and oversee its admissions strategy and Operations. A post-graduate degree preferably in Engg. or Mgmt; a Ph.D. is desirable. Minimum 10 years of experience in academic admissions and Student Training and Placements with at least 5 years in a leadership capacity in a university. Proven expertise in admissions strategy development, strong leadership, communication, multi linguistic and analytical skills.

Salary Payable, Qualification, Age limit and Experience required for all the teaching posts will be as per UGC norms.
Send resume with certificates to **hrd@joyuniversity.edu.in**

www.joyuniversity.edu.in
+91 733 890 5976 | +91 4637 231811/12

DAYANANDA SAGAR INSTITUTIONS
Shavige Malleswara Hills, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru-560111 Website : www.dayanandasagar.edu

Dayananda Sagar Institutions (DSI) is into Education for close to half a century and ranks among one of the prestigious institutions in Bangalore. The Institutions are run with state-of-the-art infrastructure and provides excellent academic atmosphere & encouragement to performing faculty & staff under an enlightened & dynamic management.

DAYANANDA SAGAR COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
DAYANANDA SAGAR ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT
DAYANANDA SAGAR COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

--Invites applications for --

•PROFESSORS •ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS •ASST. PROFESSORS •RESEARCH PROFESSORS •PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE

- **Architecture**
- **Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning**
- **Robotics & Artificial Intelligence**
- **Computer Science & Engg, Computer Science & Design**
- **Computer Science & Engg (Data Science)**
- **Computer Science & Engg (Cyber Security)**
- **Computer Science & Engg (Internet of Things Cyber Security & Block Chain Technology) Information Science & Engg.,**
- **Electrical & Electronics Electronics & Commn.,**
- **Electronics & Telecommunication Engg., Medical Electronics**
- **Civil Engineering Automobile Engg Aeronautical Engg**
- **MCA MBA Physics Chemistry Mathematics**

Qualification & Experience : As per AICTE norms

Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics - Ph.D is essential

Retired Professors, Associate Professors and persons with Industrial / R & D Experience can also apply (within 65 years of age) – Ph.D is essential

Instructors : in all the above Departments
Qualification : Diploma in relevant Branch of Engg.
B.Sc with Physics / Chemistry / Computer Science as a subject & BCA
Experience : Min 2 years of experience and Fresher with good academic background can also apply

HORTICULTURE-OFFICER :
Master's /Bachelor's Degree in Horticulture with minimum 10 years of experience in any reputed organization

Salary as per AICTE Pay Scales / higher Scales can be considered for the right candidate

How to apply: Log on www.dayanandasagar.edu → careers → Apply Now → fill the form and upload the CV within 10 days from the date of this advertisement

- Dr. D. PREMACHANDRA SAGAR, VICE-CHAIRMAN

Human rights violation cases on the back burner

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

two years. The absence of these critical positions has paralysed the commission's three core wings- law, administration, and investigation, leaving it struggling to deliver timely justice.

Cases in state

Between December 10, 2023 and November 30, 2024, over 65,000 cases of human rights violations were registered nationwide, with ₹17.24 crore awarded as compensation. Karnataka alone has recorded 7,587 cases this year. However, the backlog of pending cases reflects the SHRC's inability to function effectively without a permanent leadership team.

Among these are high-profile cases

such as a controversial Naxal encounter in Udupi.

Typically, such cases would require the chairperson to visit the site and oversee investigations, but however, this critical oversight has been absent, delaying justice for victims.

Role of SHRC

The State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) plays a vital role in holding both public and private sectors accountable for human rights violations.

It addresses issues such as illegal arrests, prison conditions, child labour, dowry harassment, and workplace discrimination, while also offering citizens a platform to seek redress for grievances against government authorities. However, sources indicate that the SHRC has been declining to register cases involving individuals who have already approached police stations or courts for assistance.

Urgent need for appointment

The SHRC's acting leadership, including Shyam Bhatt as chairperson, Dinesh Sampataraj as secretary administration section and Devajyoti Roy as additional in-charge of the Investigation Wing, have managed to keep the body functioning. However, the absence of permanent and experienced leadership hampers its operational efficiency, activists told BM.

Activists said considering that the SHRC plays such a crucial role, the government must act swiftly to address its current vacancy.

"Human rights violations are occurring daily in the city, with increasing police atrocities, reflecting a lack of commitment from the authorities. When the SHRC intervenes in such cases, it highlights the government's failure.

For now, they can appoint a member temporarily, but it is their responsibility to ensure the appointment of the right officials," said human rights activist Narasimha Murthy.

Your Connect

WANTED at BSK II STAGE, BANGALORE

- **ITI (FITTER & MACHINIST) or Diploma (Mechanical)** 5 - 6 years experience -Male
- **NTTF -** Male 5 - 6 years experience.
- **QUALITY EXECUTIVE - BE/DIPLOMA -EEE/ ECE -**Min 2-3 Years Exp familiar with ISO 9001/ 2015,ISO 14001/2015, IATF 16949/2016
- **DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEER -** Diploma/ BE/ Tools Design/ Mechanical Electrical -Male - Min 4-6 years experience.
- **PURCHASE EXECUTIVE/ Diploma** 2-3 years experience - Female
- **PPC EXECUTIVE/ Diploma** 2-3 Years experience - Female
- **HR- Executive** 3-4 years' exp. Female only

Send resume to - careers@protectron.in

For details please visit : www.protectron.in

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTANT

WANTED
ACCOUNTANTS (B.Com)
RECEPTIONIST
OFFICE ADMIN
OFFICE BOYS
Experienced or Fresher's.
Send CV to M/s. Ravi Lobo & Co., No. 37/7, Tank Road, Meanee Avenue, (near Ulsoor Lake) Sivan Chetty Garden, Bangalore.
Mail: recruitment.rlco@gmail.com

WANTED Senior Accountant In near around Peenya Cont: hrsomshekar@gmail.com .

ADMINISTRATION

RECEPTIONISTS & TEL OPERATORS

REQD Fresher & Experienced Tele - Caller (Female) for Car Insurance @ Hulimavu B.G. Road. Salary Rs. 12K to 20K. Contact: AMIT : 9243452444

LEGAL

ADVOCATE

WANTED
Advocates
Legal Assistants
Retd. Officers
to handle property documentation and other related matters.
Experienced or Fresher's.
Send CV to M/s. Ravi Lobo & Co., No. 37/7, Tank Road, Meanee Avenue, (near Ulsoor Lake) Sivan Chetty Garden, Bangalore.
Mail: recruitment.rlco@gmail.com

MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

Tele Caller

We are looking for Tele Callers Male/Female 5 Years Experienced in Loans/Insurance Good Salary & Insensitive Kalayan Nagar 9845807724

MEDICAL

MEDICAL

BANGALORE BAPTIST HOSPITAL
Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560024
REQUIRES

CONSULTANT- EMERGENCY MEDICINE
MD/MS/DNB in Medicine/ Anaesthesia/Surgery with 5 years above experience

CONSULTANT- PATHOLOGIST (PART TIME)
MD/DNB in Pathology with 0-2 years experience

CONSULTANT – NEUROSURGEON
DNB/ M.Ch with minimum 3-5 yrs experience

CONSULTANT – CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
M.Phil in Clinical Psychology with 3-5 yrs experience

REGISTRAR- GENERAL SURGERY
MS/DNB with 0-5 experience

TUTOR FOR CARDIAC CARE TECHNOLOGY
M.Sc in Cardiac Care Technology (Experience preferred).

TUTOR FOR B.Sc. MLT
B.Sc in MLT (Experience preferred).

Apply Immediately to :
The Director (CEO)
Ph: 080-22024700, Extn 1882
Mob: 8867155415
E-mail: hr@bbh.org.in
baptisthospitalhr@gmail.com

Yuva Dwee
BBMP APPROVED E-KHATA
Luxurious 3 BHK Flats for Sale
Kanakapura Main Road 1930 sqft
Rs.7899 per sft
- Next to Vajarahalli Metro Station
- Bank Loan Available

Spot Booking Offer
FREE MODULAR KITCHEN
*conditions apply
contact: 9513 55 6575

OTHER VACANCIES

WORK FROM HOME

CRISIL AAA RATED TOP MNC IN BLR Hiring Rtd.Govt. / Pvt., Defence, Bank, Teacher, VRS, NRI, IT, CA, Housewife, Sr. Citizen. Earn 1L+ Age: 25-70 Yrs. Ct: 9448059399 / 9845673443

FITNESS

SPORTS COACHING

THE KORAMANGALA CLUB invites applications from certified persons for the Club 1. Gym Instructor, 2. Swimming Pool Life guard, 3. Sports Receptionist (3 positions) 4. Badminton Marker.Candidates shall have a min of 3 plus years' experience. Suitable candidates may send their applications/ resume along with copy of their certification to Secretary at koraclub@gmail.com on or before 23.12.2024 by 08:00 pm. Call GM on 8147024163. Sd/- SHARATH.G

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

JP NAGAR

2 BHK High -end Flat FOR SALE 7th Phase JP Nagar OC obtained
1355 SQFT, North & Pool Facing Vaastu Competent in Majestic Fortune Ready for Possession, Contact: 9019163704

MARATHAHALLI

SALE 4 BHK Duplex Villa G+1 (3775sft site) In Shubh Enclave Bellandur. & East facing 2 BHK Flat 1045sft @ Domlur. Call: 9945111387 / 9141333999

PADMANABHA NAGAR

PROPERTY for Sale 45X63. 4 Floors Premium Property in Chikkalasandra 300mts from Uttarahalli Main Road Call: 9844034650 / 8105377707

UTTARAHALLI

A-KHATHA 30X40, 5 BHK Triplex Fully furnished with lift property for sale in Gublala Subramanyapura Uttarahalli, Call: 9844034650 / 8105377707

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

WAREHOUSES

21000, 10000, 5200 sft Warehouse units avlbl off Avalahalli Rd Nrth BLR 30KVA Power 24hr Scrty Water Toilets incl @17/- sft neg :9632280191

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Chandrashekhar Boraiah S/o Boraiah R/o No 5/1,3Rd Cross,Panthar Palya, Mysore Road,Nayandahalli, Bengaluru 560039 have changed my name to Chandrashekar Boraiah for all purposes.

I Rakesh Kumar Sudama Singh S/O, Sudama Singh Radhakishan Kushwaha R/o Prestige Tranquility 9181 Budigere Cross Road, Bengaluru Rural 560049 have changed my name to Rakesh Sudama Kushwaha.

I, Viral Bipin Vasani S/o, Bipin Vasani R/o Bb704 Greenage Salarpuria Sattva Bommanhalli Bengaluru 560068 have changed my name to Virral Vasaani for all purposes.

THE TIMES GROUP
Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

I, Mahesha.G s/o Gurusiddappa, R/o MPL Complex, Behind Ganesha Temple, Gurupura, Shimoga-577203. Have Changed my name to Mahesh G for all purposes.

Change of Name

I, Mr. Pawan Kumar Agrawal S/o Late Chhaju Ram Agrawal R/a No. B- 404 Tower B Vajram Tiara, Doddaballapur Main Road, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560064. Have Changed my name from PABAN KUMAR AGRAWALA to PAWAN KUMAR AGRAWAL. I State that all above mentioned names belongs to me. The Purpose of this affidavit to submit to TO WHOM SO EVER IT MAY CONCERN. Further submit that my correct name is PAWAN KUMAR AGRAWAL Further state that My name correct name is PAWAN KUMAR AGRAWAL Which is to be incorporated in Pass Port. Vide affidavit Date: 10.12.2024. Sworn before Notary: Prakasha.C.

GALLERIA

Nirmala Travels® Presents
Ph: 0824-2497051/55/59 9663548877, 9686687781, 9110477932
visit us @ www.nirmalatravels.com

SINGAPORE MALAYSIA/THAILAND 7/11 DAYS	Jan: 25, Feb: 11
BANGKOK PATTAYA 5 DAYS	Jan: 31, Feb: 17
NEPAL WITH MUKTINATH 8 DAYS	Mar: 4, Apr: 1
BHUTAN 8 DAYS	Mar: 20, Apr: 13
DUBAI 5 DAYS	Jan: 19, 28, Feb: 7, 14, 21
ANDAMAN 6 DAYS	Jan: 19, 28, Feb: 6, 14, 22
KASHMIR WITH TULIP GARDEN 6 DAYS	Mar: 24, 26, 29, 31, Apr: 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 20
AMRITSAR VAISHNODEVI SRINAGAR 16 DAYS	Mar: 13, 18, 25, 29, Apr: 6, 11, 18, 23, 30, May: 6, 12, 18

GET NOTICED

HEALTH TIP: Vitamin K helps prevent excessive bleeding by forming blood clots to stop injuries

Leafy greens such as spinach, kale, mustard greens have highest amounts of Vitamin K

BangaloreMirror | 9
Thursday, December 12, 2024
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Polarisation, brain rot & brat

2024 words of the year point to the power, perils and ephemeral nature of digital life

Ever since the American Dialect Society selected a Word of the Year at its conference in 1990, over half a dozen English dictionaries have anointed an annual word or phrase that's meant to encapsulate the zeitgeist of the prior year.

In 2003, the publisher of the Merriam-Webster Dictionary began bestowing a crown. On Dec. 9, 2024, it selected "polarization" as its word of the year, which joins a list of 2024 winners from other dictionaries that includes "brat," "manifest," "demure," "brain rot" and "enshittification."

The terms that are honored are selected in a variety of ways. For example, this year the editors of the Oxford dictionaries allowed the public to cast votes for their favorite from a short list of candidates. Brain rot emerged victorious.

Other publishers rely on the acumen of their editors, augmented by measures of popularity such as the number of online searches for a particular term.

Given the steep decline in the sale of printed reference works, these yearly announcements raise the visibility of the publisher's wares. But their choices also offer a window into the spirit of the times.

As a cognitive scientist who studies language and communication, I saw, in this year's batch of winners, the myriad ways digital life is influencing English language and culture.

Hits and misses

This isn't the only year in which nearly all the winners fell under a single thematic umbrella. In 2020, epidemic-related terminology – Covid, lockdown, pandemic and quarantine – surged to the fore.

Usually, however, there's more of a mix, with some selections more prescient and useful than others. In 2005, for example, the New Oxford American Dictionary chose "podcast" – right before the programming format exploded in popularity.

More commonly, the celebrated neologisms don't age well.

In 2008, the New Oxford American Dictionary selected hypermiling, or driving to maximize fuel efficiency. Permacrisis – an ongoing emergency – got the nod from the Collins Dictionary editors in 2022.

Neither term gets much use in 2024.

Manifesting brain rot

I can already anticipate one of this year's selections – "brat" – falling by the wayside.

Just before the 2024 U.S. election, Collins Dictionary chose brat as its word of the year. The publisher defined it as "characterized by a confident, independent, and hedonistic attitude."

Not coincidentally, it was also the name of a chart-topping album released by Charli XCX in June 2024. In late July, the singer tweeted, "kamala IS brat," signaling her support for the Democratic presidential candidate.

Of course, with Harris' loss, brat has lost some of its luster.

Other 2024 words of the year also have social media to thank for their popularity.

In late November, Cambridge Dictionary settled on manifest as its word of the year, defining it as "to use methods such as visualization and affirmation to help you imagine achieving something you want."

The term took off when singer Dua Lipa used it in an interview. But she seems to have picked up on the concept from self-help communities on TikTok.

Another word that clearly benefited from social media was "demure," chosen in late November by Dictionary.com. Although the word dates to the 15th century, it went viral in a TikTok video posted by Jools Lebron in early August. In it, she described appropriate workplace behavior as "very demure, very mindful."

The Macquarie Dictionary of Australian English settled on "enshittification" as its word in early December. Coined by Canadian-British writer Cory Doctorow in 2022, it refers to the gradual decline in functionality or usability of a specific platform or service — something that Google, TikTok, X and dating app users can attest to.

The Oxford dictionary pick for 2024 — "brain rot" — encapsulates the mind-numbing effects of excessive social media use.

The dictionary maker defined its word of the year as a "supposed deterioration of a person's mental or intellectual state, especially viewed as a result of overconsumption of material (now particularly online content) considered to be trivial or unchallenging."

Brain rot, however, isn't a new concept. In the concluding section of "Walden," Henry David Thoreau complained that "brain rot" prevailed "widely and fatally."

Digital knives out

Merriam-Webster landed on "polarization" for its Word of the Year. The dictionary maker defined the term as "division into two sharply distinct opposites; especially, a state in which the opinions, beliefs, or interests of a group or society no longer range along a continuum but become concentrated at opposing extremes."

In the U.S., political polarization has a number of causes, ranging from gerrymandering to in-group biases.

But social media undoubtedly plays a big role. A 2021 review by the Brookings Institution pointed to "the relationship between tech platforms and the kind of extreme polarization that can lead to the erosion of democratic values and partisan violence." And journalist Max Fisher has reported on the ways in which the algorithms deployed by these social media platforms "steer users toward outrage" – an observation that experimental studies of the phenomenon have supported.

Despite the polarization of political and social life, the dictionaries, at the very least, have arrived at a consensus: The tech giants are shaping our lives and our language, for better or for worse.

(Roger J. Kreuz, University of Memphis, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Nose piercings

Methods
Nose piercings are usually done in the traditional manner with a gold wire, a surgical steel piercing needle or a piercing gun. In almost all the methods, the part of the nose that has to be pierced is recognised, cleaned, marked, and finally punctured. For most people, the pain of piercing itself is like a sharp pinch that subsides very rapidly followed by warmth induced by the rush of blood to the wound site.

How long to heal
Most nostril piercings take 2 to 4 months to heal completely while septum piercing takes longer as it is performed on the cartilage. However, healing completely depends on a person's body type and can vary significantly. The piercing process itself influences the healing time with punctures made with a piercing gun taking the longest time.
Pro Tip: It's best to avoid getting your nose pierced with a piercing gun that causes swelling in the punctured spot which indeed leads to more pain.

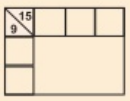
Care
There are certain dos and don'ts of caring for your nose piercing.
Don't remove the jewelry with which the piercing has been done for at least 6 weeks.
Avoid touching the wound site with bare, unsterilised hands.
Clean the area with saline solution; avoid applying oil or any antiseptic creams.
For the first few days, avoid direct contact with soaps and shampoos.
Contradictory to popular opinion, avoid twisting or moving the piercing to reduce the chances of scarring and fluid build-ups.
Pro Tip: Keep an eye out for signs of infection.
For smooth healing, use metals that you are not allergic to.

—Femina

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

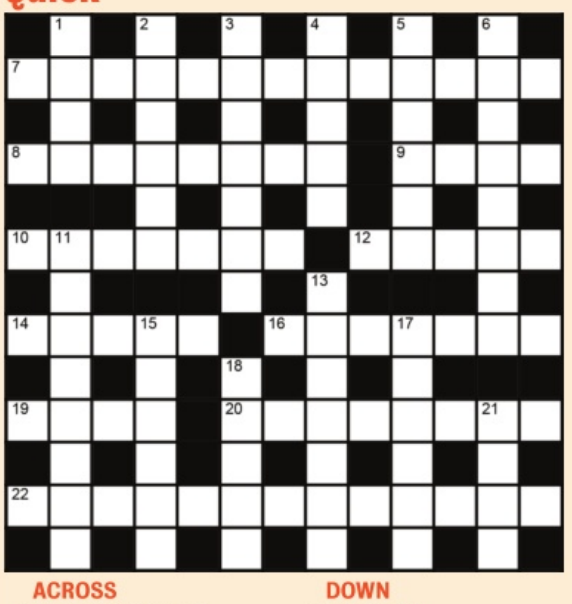
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.

Quick



ACROSS

7 Discussing ideas (13)
8 Spelling out (8)
9 ___ Lane : Superman's girl friend? (4)
10 Dirty or filthy (7)
12 Rose (5)
14 Dye vats–"skier" anagram? (5)
16 Shattered violently (7)
19 Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike in short (4)
20 Attenuated or diluted (8)
22 Corrections (13)

DOWN

1 Impulse (4)
2 The least things (6)
3 Pain-relieving drug (7)
4 Flour and water (5)
5 Charm; talisman (6)
6 Corrective remedy (8)
11 Found fault with; bickered or nagged (8)
13 The New World (7)
15 Distinction, excellence or glory? (6)
17 Security (6)
18 Float aimlessly (5)
21 Freudian terms (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Z EQUALS S

UJTSGSEK SZ GXD IUGX GE ZL-HHDZZ. IDVZSZGDKHD SZ GXD CDXSHPD BEL UVVSCD SK.

Linemaro

I want your photo. To show my mom what my next girlfriend looks like

Mindchow

Some people are like clouds. When they disappear, it's a brighter day

Joke of the day

Chuck Nevitt, North Carolina State basketball player, explaining to coach Jim Valvano why he appeared nervous at practice: "My sister's expecting a baby, and I don't know if I'm going to be an uncle or an aunt"

Loop

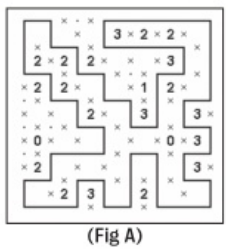
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

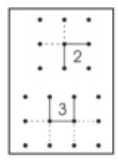
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

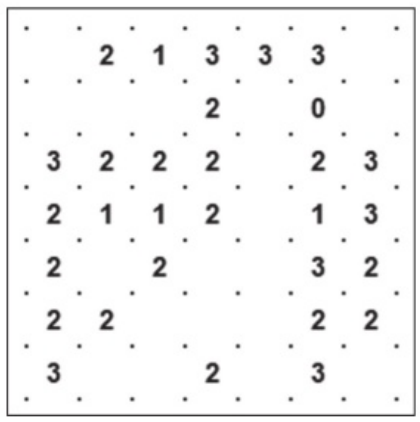
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



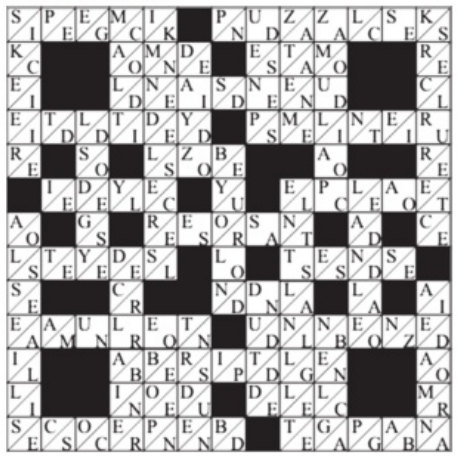
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3 H	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Those; 6 Haply; 7 Shore; 8 Anglo; 9 Teens

DOWN

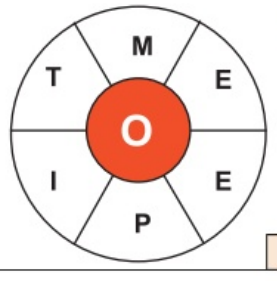
1 Heaps; 2 Hotel; 3 On shy; 4 Lento; 5 Rages

Mensapuzzle

Which letter is missing?

A	DH	M
F	KN	R
L	PU	X
S	VZ	E
X	CF	?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3	6		2		4		7	8
	4		8	1	3		2	
2				6				1
7			3		9			4
6				2				7
	8		7	9	1		4	
1	2		5		8		3	9

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 1

3 4 7 7

Medium = 17

1 4 6 6

Hard = 35

3 6 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

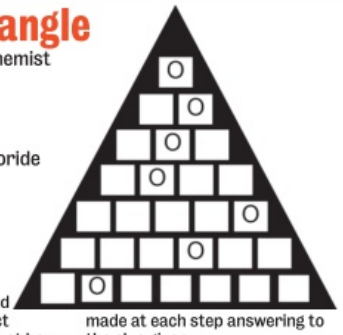
Differences: 1. Newspaper is larger. 2. Watch is added. 3. Cap is turned around. 4. Windowsill is missing. 5. Part of strap is missing. 6. Finger is added.

Riddler

Servants scatter to the winds, dusting as they go.
Returning to their home, put on a dancing show.
Attired in black and gold, their lady they defend,
But woe to the defender, to attack may mean her end. Who or what are they?

Alpha triangle

1 Oxygen for the chemist
2 Act
3 Fuel holder
4 Capital of Qatar
5 US border state
6 Resembling a chloride or bromide
7 Vacation

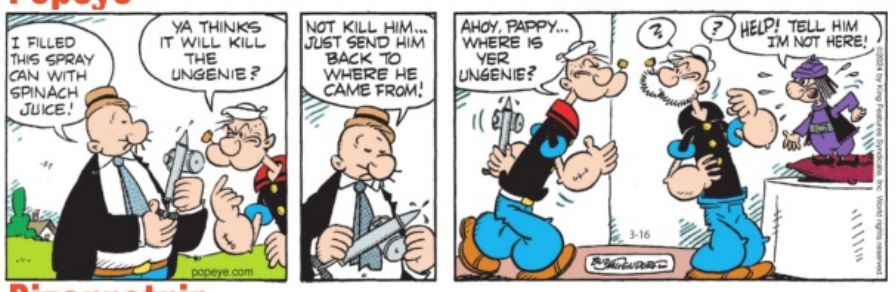


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

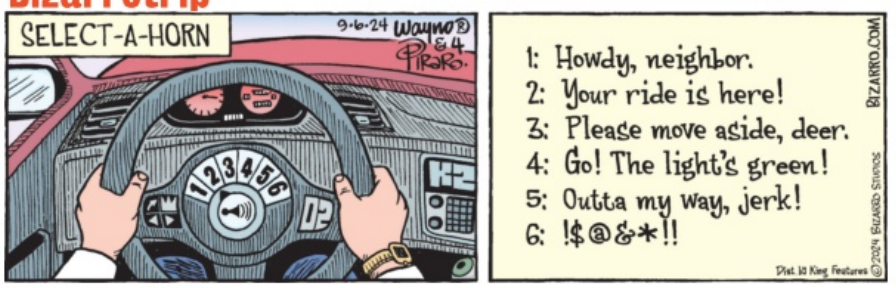
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


I FILLED THIS SPRAY CAN WITH SPINACH JUICE!
YA THINKS IT WILL KILL THE UNGENIE?
NOT KILL HIM... JUST SEND HIM BACK TO WHERE HE CAME FROM!
AHOY, PAPPY... WHERE IS YER UNGENIE?
HELP! TELL HIM I'M NOT HERE!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

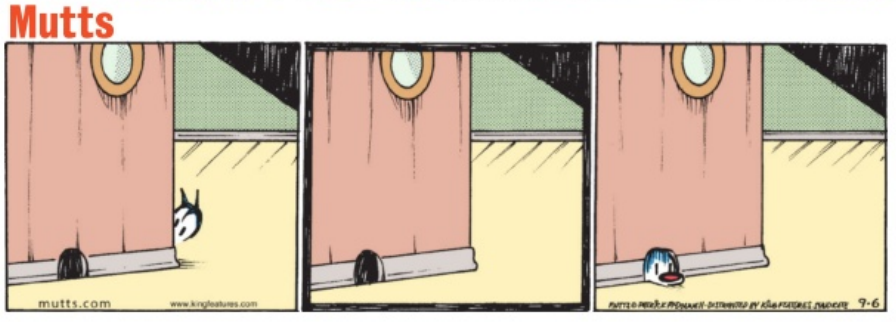
Hart of the city

HAS THIS SCHOOL ALWAYS BEEN IN SHAMBLES?
RATTY TEXTBOOKS, SLOP FOR LUNCH...
PULL!
EVEN THE KIDS ACROSS THE STREET CAN'T GET A DECENT SWING ON!
BAM!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. THAT SOUNDS NORMAL TO ME.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2020 Andrews McMeel
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

YOU'RE HERE ABOUT A REAL CRIME?
YES... I WANTED TO GET A QUOTE FROM YOU FOR A STORY I'M WRITING...
ABOUT THE BOOKSTORE OVER IN WESTVIEW THAT WAS SET ON FIRE LAST NIGHT!
OH, MY!
COULD YOU ELABORATE ON THAT?
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
© 2024 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel happy and spread joy around you. Domestic life may be harmonious, and you could enjoy romantic moments with your spouse. Family support might help you make significant professional decisions. New ventures or business partnerships may be on the horizon.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, a positive moon may bring happiness and patience. Your performance at work could earn you rewards or incentives. Family health concerns may be resolved. Job seekers might find suitable opportunities in their field. Lovebirds could enjoy a pleasant date.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may experience mixed results. It's advised to avoid setting high expectations from others to prevent disappointment. Self-reflection and analysis could help you grow, leading to confidence and readiness to face challenges.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, dissatisfaction might leave you feeling upset and impatient, impacting your work. Mistakes could occur due to lack of focus. A visit to a religious place might bring you peace. Practicing meditation or yoga is advised for mental calmness.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon; your energy and focus could lead to success. Hard work may be rewarded, and colleagues may support you. A short work-related trip is likely. Good news may come from a sibling.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Family matters could keep you occupied today. You are advised to avoid arguments in personal relationships, as arrogance might disrupt domestic harmony. Things should settle by evening. Trust your intuition when making business investments.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, messy situations may come under control, bringing peace of mind. Balancing expenses and earnings could improve financial health. You are advised to avoid overworking or excessive travel to protect your well-being. Students can start planning for the future. Lovebirds may enjoy a joyful day.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, health concerns and sleeplessness might leave you feeling mentally tired and unfocused. Laziness could interfere with commitments. It is advised to avoid rush driving and unnecessary expenses. Rest and self-care are crucial.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, social gatherings and reconnecting with old friends could strengthen your network, potentially benefiting your career. Those in export, import, glamour, or arts may excel. Students might perform well in studies. Lovebirds could enjoy quality time together.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today is a good day. Family support may boost your confidence, and family business expansion could enhance your social status. You might plan to grow your family, fostering stronger bonds. Students may apply for scholarships for higher education.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Spirituality may guide you, and your past investments could yield good returns. Improved relations with your boss might lead to promotions. Good news from a sibling is likely. Be mindful of your words in personal and love matters to maintain harmony.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Sleeplessness may lead to laziness and reduced inner strength. Nervousness at work might impact ongoing projects. Avoid investing in unproductive ventures or consuming spicy food to prevent digestive issues. Exercise caution while driving.

KIDZONE

Monika, 11 years, New florence Public School

Kaveri Sriram, 11 years, Valistus International School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$\sqrt{5(5-3)} / 2\sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{5} / 2\sqrt{5} = 1$

BULL'S EYE
emote, EPITOME, mope, mote, omit, poem, poet, tempo, tome, tope

STRIKE OUT

S	C	O	R	N	E	D	■	E	A	G	A	N	■	■
L	■	I	O	U	■	E	L	L	■	R	■	■	■	■
I	■	A	B	R	I	D	G	E	■	O	■	■	■	■
A	M	U	L	E	T	■	U	N	B	E	N	D	■	■
S	■	C	■	N	D	A	■	L	■	A	■	■	■	■
S	T	Y	E	S	■	O	■	T	E	D	S	■	■	■
A	■	G	■	R	E	R	A	N	■	A	■	E	■	■
I	■	D	L	E	■	Y	■	E	C	L	A	T	■	■
R	■	O	■	L	O	B	■	A	■	E	■	■	■	■
E	D	D	I	E	D	■	S	E	I	N	E	R	■	■
I	■	D	E	A	D	E	N	D	■	C	■	■	■	■
K	■	A	N	D	■	S	A	O	■	E	■	■	■	■
S	P	E	C	K	■	P	U	Z	Z	L	E	S	■	■

FAST FIVE

S	E	N	T	E
A	L	O	N	G
H	O	S	E	R
P	H	Y	L	A
E	T	H	O	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.

QUICK

■	■	E	■	T	■	A	■	Y	■	S	■	■	■	■
R	E	C	T	I	F	I	C	A	T	I	O	N	■	■
L	■	■	U	■	■	I	■	E	■	G	■	■	■	■
B	■	E	■	D	■	E	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	■
K	I	E	R	S	■	S	M	A	S	H	E	D	■	■
U	■	■	■	A	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	■	■	■
S	O	U	A	L	I	D	■	S	T	O	O	D	■	■
■	■	M	■	■	H	■	E	■	D	■	■	■	■	■
D	E	F	I	N	I	N	G	■	U	■	L	O	I	S
G	■	N	■	P	■	U	■	T	■	■	■	■	■	■
B	R	A	I	N	S	T	O	R	M	I	N	G	■	■
■	M	■	A	■	D	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
Start on the top left of the diagram and work from top to bottom in columns, from left to right. Letters are written in alphabetic order, in a repeated sequence of steps of 5, 6 and 7.

RIDDLER Bees

SUDOKU

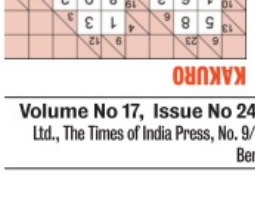
8	5	2	9	7	6	4	1	3
3	6	1	2	5	4	9	7	8
9	4	7	8	1	3	5	2	6
2	9	8	4	6	7	3	5	1
7	1	5	3	8	9	2	6	4
6	3	4	1	2	5	8	9	7
5	8	3	7	9	1	6	4	2
1	2	6	5	4	8	7	3	9
4	7	9	6	3	2	1	8	5

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 − 7 − 3 + 7 = 1
Medium
6 x 4 − 6 − 1 = 17
Hard
6 x 5 + 8 − 3 = 35

ALPHA TRIANGLE
0, Do, Hod, Doha, Idaho, Haloid, Holiday.

LOOP

KAKURO



Volume No 17, Issue No 248 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Top celeb
Singer-actor Diljit Dosanjh has topped the UK list of the 'Top 50 Asian Celebrities in the World' previewed in London

WARM INTERACTION

Andrew Garfield on his thoughts on meeting Shraddha, Indian film industry and more

Many famous people from the entertainment world are in Saudi Arabia for the Red Sea International Film Festival. On December 9, Andrew Garfield and Shraddha Kapoor met at the premiere of Garfield's film, We Live in Time.Now, in an interview with Pinkvilla, Andrew shared his thoughts on meeting Shraddha. He described their interaction as brief but pleasant and praised her for being kind, gentle, and lovely.

A few days ago, Andrew and Zoya Akhtar served on the jury together at the Marrakech International Film Festival. Andrew expressed his admiration for Zoya, sharing his excitement to watch her films, even though he hadn't seen any of them yet. Andrew also shared that during their discussions about American, British, and Indian cinema, he and Zoya Akhtar bonded over their shared admiration for the Indian film RRR, which has recently gained significant recognition in the West. He expressed his excitement about the impact of RRR, describing it as a groundbreaking moment in cinema. He likened it to a tiger breaking through the screen, emphasizing the thrill and awakening that comes with discovering a new cultural approach to filmmaking.

—ETimes

Selena on loneliness

Actress-singer Selena Gomez, who has earned the best supporting actress Golden Globe nomination, is embracing the moment.

She has also spoken up on the issue of the feeling of loneliness and getting isolated in Hollywood, reports 'People' magazine.

Talking about her Golden Globes nomination, she told 'People', "I'm overwhelmed, very, very honored and grateful. I can't wait to see what happens".

Nominated in the same category as actress-singer Ariana Grande, 31, the actresses sat next to each other at the luncheon, held in Los Angeles at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

As per 'People', the two awards season favorites separately grew to fame as child stars on television, Gomez in Disney Channel's 'Wizards of Waverly Place' and Grande on Nickelodeon's 'Victorious'.

In her keynote speech, Selena emphasised how she's found community in more recent years. "I know firsthand how isolating this industry will feel at times, but moments like this and rooms like this, and talking to all these amazing women just reminds me that I'm not alone, and we aren't alone," she said, gesturing to her table where Grande sat along with stars including Amy Adams, Pamela Anderson, Awkwafina, Gal Gadot, Rita Wilson, Mila Kunis and Olivia Wilde.

—IANS

We want to know what it means!

In February 2024, Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli welcomed their second child, a baby boy named Akaay Kohli. After announcing the name on social media, many people searched for its meaning.

As a result, 10-month-old Akaay ranked second in Google's Year in Search 2024 list under the 'Meaning' category, just behind "All Eyes on Rafah." Other top search terms included cervical cancer and demure.

Akaay, the name chosen by Anushka and Virat for their son, has roots in both Hindi and Turkish languages. In Turkish, it is derived from 'kaaya,' meaning body. In Sanskrit, Akaay refers to "anything or something that is without kaay," which translates to something that lacks form or body.

Announcing the same on social media, Anushka Sharma and Virat Kohli wrote, "With abundant happiness and our hearts full of love, we are pleased to inform everyone that on 15th February, we welcomed our baby boy Akaay and Vamika's little brother into this world!" **—ETimes**

In a dark place

Arjun Kapoor recently made a powerful comeback with Singham Again as the menacing Danger Lanka, while revealing about the challenging career phase that made him seek professional help.

He recalled it all, saying that being so tough had created bitterness around himself and made him a point where he needed medical support. In an interview to GQ India, Kapoor shared how the pressure of career setbacks brought out his worst fears. He said, "I stopped watching films, consuming cinema, stopped going to theaters. I stopped being able to embrace other people's good work and started sensing a kind of bitterness growing within me. I realized I needed somebody to just listen to me." People around him would notice that he was even finding it hard to get out of bed.

It was then that he chose to undergo therapy. According to Kapoor, talking openly about things in his sessions brought clarity to him. He was challenged by his therapist to confront his thoughts and take practical steps toward his betterment. It was in this process that he broke free from procrastination, decided, and came out of bed each morning despite how painful it was. Kapoor thought of how the emotional ups and downs had drained him, although he knew the tough times will pass by, as it has in the past. But, he said, constantly facing challenges is emotionally exhausting.

"I was broken. It sucked dealing with failure," the actor said, adding that defeat also taught him how to accept it and go on." — ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Breaking tradition

Though usually it is Tamil and Telugu movies that get released in theaters on the occasion of Sankranti festival and not so many Kannada movies, Choo Mantar is set to break this tradition. It is set to arrive in theaters on January 10.

Navaneeth, who handled the megaphone for Karva, a horror mystery, and Bukasura, a psychological thriller, has directed Choo Mantar in which Sharan plays the lead while Chikkanna plays a key character. The movie's teaser was released by Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce president NM Suresh and producer K Manju at a function on Monday

Choo Mantar has shades of dark humour and it was shot in Uttarakhand, Sri Lanka, Mysuru, and Bengaluru for around 60 days. "We put up a Rs-2 crore set for the shooting of this movie in Bengaluru," said Navaneeth.

Good opportunities

Prakruthi Soundarya, who hails from Tumakuru, is on cloud nine about the opportunities to act in more movies. Prakruthi, basically a singer, began her career as an actor by playing a small character in Kannada tele serial Bramhagantu three years ago. She also played a small character in the tele serial Geetha.

"I had an opportunity to act in Telugu and Tamil tele serials. I got an opportunity to act in the Kannada movie Bheema, directed by Duniya Vijay. I attended the auditions and got selected to play the wife of Dragon Manju in the movie. During the shooting, Duniya Vijay sir not only encouraged me but also guided me on how to face the camera," she said.

Now she is very happy with the opportunities she is getting. "I got selected to play the second female lead for a movie in which Vasishta Simpay plays the lead. I got selected for two Kannada movies. Talks are on with a few more directors but I am yet to take a final decision. A few Telugu movie directors also approached me but I rejected the offers," she said.

She said that directors, who selected her to act in Kannada movies, have asked her to focus on singing. "I am attending a music class in the city," she said.